ASCS Today

By Tom Conrad

1978 Wheat Set-Aside Program - As a result of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977, the 1978 **Wheat Set-Aside Program** is a reality. There have been many questions raised by farmers such as "what are the provisions of the program, what is required to participate, and what are the benefits?

Last week I sent a newsletter to all farmers in the county, which has the answers to the above questions. Please take some time to read about the program, and if you have any questions, please let me know.

Generally, the program is based on a Normal Crop Acreage (NCA), which will be established for each farm based on the acreage of wheat, barley, rye, oats, grain sorghum, corn, and soybeans planted on the farm in 1977. Acres of small grains will be included only when planting were for harvest as grain.

The Program will be voluntary, meaning that the farmer may elect to participate or not to participate. If the farmer participates, he becomes eligible for deficiency payments, disaster payments, or price support loans. There will not be payment for the acreage that is set aside.

For a farm to be eligible, there must be set aside or removed from crop production an acreage of land equal to 20 percent of the 1978 wheat planted acreage for harvest as grain. The set aside land must be devoted to approved vegetative cover crop such as annual or perennial grasses and legumes or small grains which are not allowed to mature. The total acreage of corn, grain sorghum, wheat, barley, rye, oats, and soybeans plus the set aside land cannot exceed the NCA established for the farm.

If a farmer is the owner or operator of more than one farm, he must comply with program provisions for each farm for wheat planted and NCA in order to be eligible for benefits. On each farm with wheat planted there must be compliance with both set-aside acreage and NCA for the farmer to earn benefits on any of the farms. On each farm with no wheat planted the total of the normal crops must not exceed the normal crop acreage for the farm in order to be eligible for benefits on the farm where wheat is planted.

We have at the ASCS office copies with provisions of the program. If you are interested in a copy, or have any questions please stop by the office.

Emergency Feed Program (EFP) - The ASCS office is now accepting applications under the new Emergency Feed Program.

In the newsletter that was sent out last week, there was an explanation of the program provisions. If you are interested in the program, you will want to read the provisions or contact the ASCS office.

The objective of the program is because of the drought to provide assistance to eligible livestock owners by sharing the cost of feed for eligible livestock when such feed must be purchased in quantities above normal. The Assistance is for the preservation and maintenance of livestock.

For a farmer to be eligible, he must have suffered a substantial loss in the feed normally produced on the farm, not have sufficient feed for eligible livestock for the feeding period and be required to make feed purchases in quantities larger than normal. The dollar amount of assistance on the net allowance is 50 percent of the cost of the feed purchased not to exceed two cents per pound of feed grain equivalent.

HELP WANTED - I am looking for a person(s) to measure acreages and stored corn. Anyone interested should be willing to work a minimum 8 hours a day for five days a week and have their own transportation. Experience is not necessary but would be helpful. Paid training will be provided and salary will be on a piece work basis. If you are interested, please contact me immediately at the ASCS office.

USDA Calls For Comments On Flue-Cured Tobacco Program - Washington - The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on October 19 asked for public comments to assist it in determining the National Marketing Quota for the 1978 crop of flue-cured tobacco. To be assured of consideration, written comments must be received by the Department no later than November 18.

Details concerning the program determinations under consideration will be published in the Federal Register on October 21. Current legislation requires that the National Flue-Cured Tobacco Quota for the 1978-79 marketing year be announced no later than December 1.

To provide all segments of the tobacco industry with an opportunity to comment, two meetings will be held to discuss supply of and demand for flue-cured tobacco and other factors relating to quota determination. One meeting will be held at 9 a.m., November 9, in the auditorium of the Rural Development Center, Tifton, Ga., and the other at 10 a.m., November 10 in the Memorial Auditorium, 500 Fayetteville Street Mall, Raleigh, N.C.

Comments should be sent to the Director, Price Support and Loan Division, USDA-ASCS, P. O. Box 2415, Washington, D.C. 20013. All written comments will be available for public inspection during regular business hours at the office of the Director, Room 3741 of USDA's South Building.

Cathy Ragland

October FHA Girl Of The Month

The outstanding officer for the month of October started her career as an officer by going to FFA-FHA camp during the summer. She attended all of the executive council planning meetings this summer to help prepare the program of work for the year. She also helped plan and prepare bulletin boards for the opening of school. She actively participated in planning and preparing the fair booth and then went to Farmville to help put the booth up. In September she attended the federation officer training workshop at Rustburg. She helped prepare and serve the faculty luncheon. She helped prepare the me-shops for the federation mini-conference and she attended the mini-conference at Altavista. She has actively participated in all of the activities of the executive council and has been an inspiration to her fellow officers through her hard work.

Your outstanding officer for the month of October is your chaplin - Cathy Ragland. Congratulations Cathy!!

ART SUPPLIES
SEE
THE TIMES-VIRGINIAN
Court Street
Appomattox, Va.

"Reading All Together" At AMS

Appomattox Middle School has initiated a school-wide reading program called "Reading All Together."

The AMS faculty and staff felt that such a program could prove to be worthwhile.

The program will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings with students reporting to their homerooms. At 8:40 a.m. all activity will cease since everyone - students, custodians, teachers, cooks, and the principal, et al - will be reading.

"Reading All Together" will last from 8:40 a.m. until 9:05 a.m. when the regular school business will commence anew.

Often the complaint is heard that there is so much to read with so little time to read. At the Middle School, they hope to offer the entire school community a few minutes to catch up on some reading. They're looking forward to some enjoyable reading.

Completes Marine Training

OCTOBER 25 - Marine Private Earl W. Thornton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Jenkins of Route 117, Appomattox, Va., has completed recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C.

During the 11-week training cycle, he learned the basics of battlefield survival. He was introduced to the typical daily routine that he will experience during his enlistment and studied the personal and professional standards traditionally exhibited by Marines.

He participated in an active physical conditioning program and gained proficiency in a variety of military skills, including first aid, rifle marksmanship and close order drill. Teamwork and self-discipline were emphasized throughout the training cycle.

A 1977 graduate of Appomattox County High School, he joined the Marine Corps in December 1976.

DIAL GOOD NEWS
352-7900

AES 4-H MEETING HELD

Mrs. Walton's 4-H Club met on Thursday, October 20, 1977. The meeting was conducted by Mike Roach. Recreation leaders were Sally Coleman and Becky Bass. We talked about Share-the-Fun Contest. It will be held at 3:30 on Nov. 1st, 7th and 9th, 1977.

Also talked about 4-H projects and Mr. Goldman, Mr. Sweet and Miss Smith gave us our project books.

Brenda Franklin, Reporter

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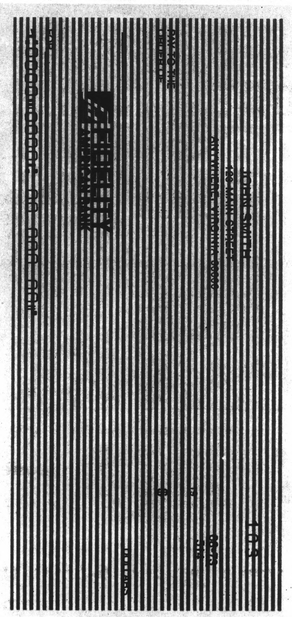

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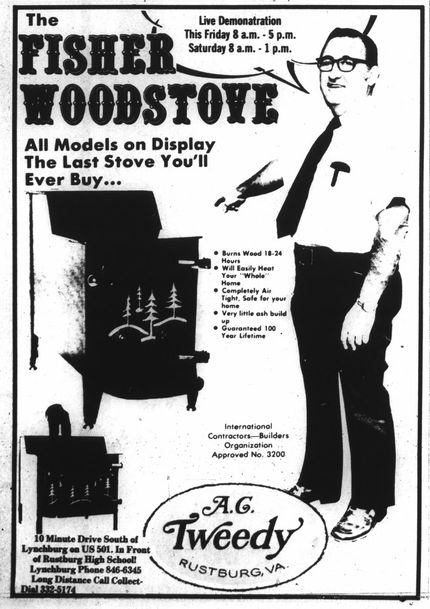

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GOOD NEWS FOR HOMEMAKERS

By Shirley W. Walton
Extension Agent

ENERGY TIPS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

A team of energy experts at Va. Tech has offered some tips for immediately reducing energy consumption in the wake of a possible cold winter and another energy crisis.

The energy panel emphasized steps are temporary, but represent potential savings to every consumer. The recommendations cover space and water heating, which together represent about 73% of the annual energy used in the home.

To reduce space heating needs you should tape and cover windows with plastic, if you do not have storm windows. You should also set thermostats at 65°F. during the day and 60°F. at bedtime. Many people say that they shiver at this temperature. What's wrong with getting a sweater or a light jacket? Think of the energy you are saving and you are burning up extra calories. Another thing you can do is to clean or replace furnace filters. A dirty filter takes more energy to operate, and even then does not operate effectively.

Seal off unnecessary or little used rooms except where water pipes may freeze. These rooms should be kept at what we call a safe minimum temperature of 40° or 45°, but is if each room has an individual thermostat.

Other things you might include removing furniture or other objects away from heating ducts, or registers so they will not be blocked. Leakage at door bottoms can be stopped with rugs, blankets, paper, or draft stoppers. We have directions in our office for making draft stoppers. Fireplace dampers should be closed when the fireplace is not in use.

To reduce water heating demands, the panel of energy experts recommends:

1. Having thermostat on hot water heater set at 140°F.
2. Taking shorter showers, instead of tub baths which use more water.
3. Avoid running hot water when shaving or washing dishes.

There are some 35 publications on energy available from the Appomattox County Extension Office and other Extension offices throughout Virginia.

Use your energy wisely. Wise use and good common sense are an absolute must if we are to continue to have energy sources for heating our homes and for providing the comforts that all of us enjoy. If each of us is willing to do our fair share and conserve, we will find that all of us will be able to continue to enjoy the use of energy in our homes.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Neola's Chicken Casserole
2 cups cooked chicken breast (4 large or medium diced)
1 can water chestnuts (sliced)
1 can cream of chicken soup
1 carton sour cream onion dip or chopped onions added to sour cream
1 cup cooked rice

Mix all ingredients together. Place in casserole and sprinkle with corn flake crumbs. Melt a little butter and add to crumbs. Place over contents. Cook at 325° for 30 minutes. Do not let it get too dry by overcooking. Note: Many thanks to Mrs. Neola Smith for sharing this mouth-water chicken casserole with us. She served this at a recent Church supper and everyone was talking about it and trying to locate the "good cook" who brought it.

Write Right with the pen of your choice
Bic, Pentel & Many More
The Times-Virginian

6th Graders Tour Times-Virginian

Shown above are members of Mrs. Nancy Farmer's Sixth Grade Class of the Appomattox Elementary School after they had completed a tour of the **Times-Virginian** on Thursday morning, October 27.

The class has been studying newspapers and the work involved in the make-up of a paper. Very shortly the class plans to begin work on their very own Sixth Grade Newspaper. We wish this enthusiastic group much success!

Va. Fibre Reports Wood Purchases For Week

Listed below is the total dollar volume of wood purchased by Virginia Fibre Corporation of Riverville for the week ending October 21, 1977. Purchases are listed by counties:

Albermarle	$ 3,920.20
Amelia	958.21
Amherst	7,794.39
Appomattox	5,790.10
Augusta	—
Bedford County	3,847.98
Buckingham	11,834.87
Prince William	282.26
Campbell	9,236.66
Charlotte	983.44
Cumberland	5,582.77
Fluvanna	1,894.18
Goochland	4,041.83
Nelson	13,976.55
Nottoway	571.33
New Kent	—
Pittsylvania	2,317.91
Prince Edward	8,575.46
Total	**81,908.14**

We feel this information will be of interest to our readers not only in Appomattox County but in adjoining counties.

Believer's Heaven New All Color Film Coming

From the producers of "The Burning Hell" and "The Grim Reaper" comes another all-color motion picture, **The Believer's Heaven** which opens at the Bethel - Bible Church this coming Nov. 6th at 7:30 p.m.

Again this film has the dynamic and dramatic Estus Pirkle whose narration and descriptions add power to the script.

The story deals with that wonderful place called HEAVEN. And realizing the contents, both the producer and the film's presenter spent literally hundreds of hours of research, and travel. And since the Bible story deals with Heaven, five continents were visited complete with a full camera and sound crew, along with many others who volunteered their time and services.

The Book of Revelation tells us that John, after his banishment to the isle of Patmos was privileged to an awe inspiring vision of the Golden Place of Eternity. Thus the entire film crew along with the other Christian performers made the trek to Patmos in which to photograph the sequence.

Our attempt to try and describe that vision is a literal impossibility, but through the media of our cameras, congregations and audiences will at least get a glimpse of that astounding place of reward. Hopefully reproduced as nearly as possible as it might have been seen by the great Disciple John!

During the two-year period of production, another sequence dealing with the great city of UR, the city of Abraham, whose riches and wealth made him the powerful influence he must have been. But one problem prevented the company from going. The city was in the territory of Iraq, which had gone totally communistic. They would not recognize an American passport for they had no diplomatic agreement with the United States. This posed a problem. But if we were to be authentic in our Biblical interpretation of the event, we would have to go to Iraq. Time nor space will allow a full accounting of the details that had to be overcome. But through an arrangement with the East Indian government, the trip was made possible and Ur was visited and photographed.

A special studio had to be built for the Heaven sets. Everything took time with our old foe Satan fighting us each hour of each day. But every scene was dedicated. We prayed a lot and God through His usual mercy saw us through.

Pastor David Grove of the Bethl Bible Church states the public is invited to the showing which will commence promptly at 7:30 p.m.

MRS. BRYAN'S 4-H CLUB

Monday, Oct. 17, 1977 Kenneth Anderson and Thomas Doss, our recreation leaders, led us in a game. Lynn Pullium, the secretary, read the minutes. Our class talked about old business, project-books, due this week, livestock projects, May 11-12 and the Bike-a-Thon. Share-the-Fun 4-H talent show will be A.E.S. 4th grade, Nov. 14; AES 5th grade, Nov. 15, AES 6th grade, Nov. 16, AMS 7th, 8th grade, Nov. 17 and P.E.S. 4th, 6th grade, Nov. 3. The time for all is the same 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Then we talked about choosing projects. Mr. Sweet and Mr. Goldman showed us all the books. Mr. Goldman went over the rules for 4-H Share the Fun. Our class watched films on 4-H Share the Fun. Last month we elected officers and talked about last year's 4-H.

Charlotte Cheatham, Reporter

DIAL GOOD NEWS
352-7900

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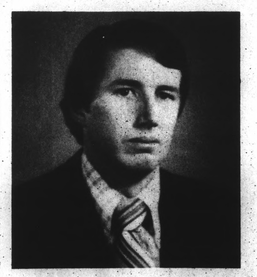

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